

Society News

Phippsburg Historical Society Launches New Website

The Society Board had talked for many years about the value of having a presence on “the Web”.



People are looking at the internet more and more when they plan a trip to a specific area to find out about things to do and places to visit while they are in the area. People also search the internet for information about specific places, area history and genealogy. A presence on the internet becomes a valuable asset in this day and age. To that end, the Society has launched a new web site with Charles Main as our volunteer web master. The web site content is constantly being updated with resource lists of materials available at the Museum, information about current exhibits, a virtual tour of Phippsburg and general information about the Phippsburg Historical Society and the Museum. The web address is www.phippsburghistorical.com. The Board discussed at length what should and should not be included on the site. We hope we have included enough to whet the appetite of the browser but not give away all the goodies to be found on a visit to the Museum itself. If you have suggestions and comments about the web site

please let us know, we'd love to hear from you. The web master is always looking for new ideas to make the site interesting and useful to its visitors. We hope you will bookmark our site and visit it

New Exhibits at the Museum

There are two new exhibits at our museum this summer and both have met with favorable reviews from our visitors. The first new exhibit is "Bodwell Grange" which displays grange items donated to the Museum by the members of Bodwell Grange. Arranged in one of the antechambers of our museum building, this exhibit mirrors the Grange meeting room. Our second exhibit is on loan from the Seventh Grade Red House of the Bath Middle School and is about Malaga Island. This exhibit was done by students after they read *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*, a fictional account of Malaga, and presented at school, at the Patten Library and a symposium at USM. This exhibit will be returned to the students at the end of the summer season.

We also have a new exhibit of Civil War artifacts that is scheduled to be ready by the first week in August. This display is on loan from William Mullen of Phippsburg and he plans to change items periodically. Since there were over 100 Phippsburg men who served in the Civil War, we are pleased to sponsor this exhibit.

TREASURER'S NOTES:

Donations this year have kept up with previous years and for this we are very grateful. It has been a learning year for the new board and we have some new ideas that we hope will increase participation in Society programs and generate interest in our museum. Thanks to all for thinking of us.

INCOME STATEMENT

7/1/07 to 6/30/08

INCOME/EXPENSES

Income:

Book Fund

Fair to The Wind	610.80
Vol. #1	180.00
Vol. #2	360.00
Book Fund (Other)	55.50

Total Book Fund 1206.30

Building Fund 0.00

General Fund

Donation Bowl	225.71
Dues Income	1,250.00
Sale of Ornaments	38.00
Sale of Postcards	33.28
Other	<u>1,857.35</u>

Total General Fund 3,404.34

Interest Earned 1,667.95

Memorial Fund 3,566.41

Sales Tax Income 46.22

Total Income \$9,891.22

Expense

Building Improvements	0.00
Dues Paid	25.00
Entertainment	29.90
Insurance	1,736.00
Miscellaneous	315.28
Office	942.07
Sales Taxes	80.13
Services	370.00
Utilities	<u>965.22</u>

Total Expenses \$4,463.60

Total Income/Expenses \$5427.62

GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 320.00
BOOK FUND BALANCE	\$ 4,299.80
BUILDING FUND BALANCE	\$ 0.00
MUSEUM FUND BALANCE	\$41,217.64

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Florence W. Jewell gift in memory of Betty Doughty
 Lawson J. Beals gift in memory of Lester H. Beals & Alice A. Munsey
 Mr & Mrs E. John White gift in memory of Phoebe B. White
 Mr & Mrs Ronald A. Flink gift in honor of Ada M. Haggett
 Anonymous gift in memory of Woody Dana, Paul Wallace Anda Bijhouwer and Marlene Totman
 William S. Gilman Donation
 Ann C. Carney gift in memory of John B. Carney
 Mr & Mrs Bruce Bickford Donation
 John H. McCourt, Sr gift in memory of Hazel M. McCourt on their anniversary Nov 19, 1930
 Charlie and Carol Main gift in memory of Anda Bijhouwer
 Jesse and Doug Sutfin gift in memory of Dorothy and Newbold Varian, Sr.
 Mildred V. Rogers gift in memory of John M. Rogers
 Laurie Davis Donation
 James and Linda Totman gift in memory of Virginia Hunter
 Richard and Susan Seaman Donation
 Lloyd and Lorraine Lowell gift in memory of Warren Field
 Loren Hunter & Leslie Mellott Hunter gift in memory of Seymor Hunter and Barbara F. Mellott
 Jean Perkins gift in memory of Virginia Hunter
 Steve & Sally Porter gift in memory of Elmer Porter
 Tom Hinkle Donation
 Howard and Jo Schuman gift in memory of Virginia Hunter
 Fred and Mary Libby gift in memory of Virginia Hunter
 Unity Circle Donation
 Loren Hunter and Leslie Mellott Hunter gift in memory of Virginia Hunter
 Florence W. Jewell gift in memory of Virginia Hunter
 Ed Mellott gift in memory of Virginia Hunter
 Jim & Elna Joseph gift in memory of Anda Bijhouwer
 Mrs Brooks C. Emeny Donation
 John H. McCourt gift in memory of Hazel M. McCourt
 Murial G. Horstmann gift in memory of Paul K. Horstmann
 Jane P. Morse gift in memory of Frances & John Morse, Jr.
 Samuel & Regina Roberts Donation
 James & Linda Totman gift in memory of Flossie Jewe

COOKIE WALK A SWEET SUCCESS



On November 24, 2007 the Annual PHS Cookie Walk and Victorian Open House brought forth many hungry cookie lovers. A crowd of about 70

folks came by to buy cookies, look at the displays, and peruse the research materials offered at the Museum on the Parker Head Road. Volunteers, dressed in turn-of-the-century garb, greeted the patrons at the door. The new addition became the "cookie room" and



featured a table filled with an incredible display of cookies from which to fill your bag. The Museum was decorated for the Christmas holidays and featured a Victorian tree and other yuletide displays.

The cookie bakers, as usual, did a great job of supplying home-made goodies and a thank-you goes out to all. Don't forget to mark the 2008 calendar on Saturday, November 29 (the Saturday after Thanksgiving), 10am-1pm, as the next Victorian Open House and Cookie



Walk.

Powderpost Beetles

Not too far into the summer season, it was discovered that the museum building, particularly in the "wood shed", has displayed evidence of a Powderpost Beetle infestation.



These small beetles burrow their way into sapwood to lay their eggs. They leave little pinpoint holes in the wood as they burrow their way in and the mature larvae leave a hole on their way out. Often they look for the same piece of wood each year when they lay eggs. They are most noticeable when they leave fine brown sawdust like material as they bore into the wood. Upon discovery in the Museum, two pest control companies were asked to give recommendations and quotes to effect their removal. The Museum Board has decided to take the lower of the two quotes. In September, after the Museum closes, the Board will clean out the "wood shed", leaving any pieces of wood that have been found to contain the little pin holes, and Orkin pest removal services will treat the shed and any pest infested pieces with a non-toxic chemical solution. This will kill the larvae in the wood itself and then we will have to keep an eye out for any reoccurrence of adult beetles next year. There also are two display pieces to which we will apply anhhhh oil base stain which is supposed to keep the adult beetles from attacking the wood. We hope to have all of this done before the annual Open House and Cookie Walk. It looks like a busy fall.

Who's On The PHS Board?

At the 2007 Annual Meeting, the Board of the Historical Society took on a new look. Peggy Doughty retired after many years as President of the Society, Gloria Gray went off the Board and new people were elected to fill those spots. We thought perhaps our members might like to know who's on the PHS Board!

Our new President is **Jessie Sutfin**. Many people know her as "Jessie Varian". Jessie is the granddaughter of founding Society members Newbold and Dorothy Varian. She grew up in Sebasco Estates and attended school in Phippsburg and Bath. Jessie graduated from high school in Vermont and learned to cook. She opened the "Waters Edge" restaurant in Sebasco which kept her busy during the summer and left her winters free for travel. In 1986, Jessie and new husband Doug Sutfin threw out a permanent anchor in Sebasco and now live in her grandparents house there. Jessie is the Food Services Director at the West Bath Elementary School. She has many community interests, one of which is old Phippsburg Cemeteries. She has been working with efforts to restore the old cemeteries around town. She was elected President of the Society in 2007 and will serve a two year term.



Our Vice-President is **Merry Chapin**. Merry grew up in Yarmouth, Me and attended North Yarmouth Academy. From there it was on to Colby College. Merry and her husband Craig moved to Phippsburg in 1968 and began teaching in the Phippsburg Elementary School. Merry has been very involved with many aspects of community life here in Phippsburg through the years. She joined the Historical Society Board in 2002. She has been active in cemetery restoration, historic preservation and hands on education.



Betsey Morse continues to serve as our Treasurer. Betsey grew up in Concord, NH and graduated from Concord High School. She earned a BS from Westbrook College and worked for several years in hospital laboratories in Boston before she married John Morse and moved to Phippsburg in 1971. Betsey has been involved with the YMCA and several Phippsburg community groups. Betsey works for Sagadahock Real Estate and John G. Morse & Sons. She enjoys genealogy and area history.



Carol Main is our Secretary. Carol was born in Lynn, MA and raised in Saugus. She graduated from Saugus High School in 1956, married Charles Main in 1958. She has lived in the "Old Butler Place" on Dromore Bay since 1969. Carol retired as a full time secretary in 2001 and has busied herself working for Morse River Associates and Kennebec Office Services from her home. She volunteers at the Totman Library, Mid Coast Hospital, Lincoln County Animal Shelter, and Phippsburg Land Trust. Carol has been on the PHS Board since 2004. When Carol relaxes she enjoys reading, sewing, nature, gardening, Maine and Phippsburg history.



Orman E. Hines serves as our Corresponding Secretary. Orman was born in Brunswick and graduated from Brunswick High School. After attending The University of Maine, Orman did a stint in the Army. He married Wendy Dana and they have made their home in the Sebasco area of Phippsburg. They have two grown sons. Orman was Dining Service Purchasing Manager at Bowdoin, retiring in 2001. Orman has an interest in Archaeology, history and Land preservation. He serves on the Maine Archaeological Society board and the Phippsburg Land Trust board as well as many other committees.



Gary Morong is a life long resident of Phippsburg being the son of George and Minerva Wallace Morong. Gary attended Phippsburg Schools and graduated from Morse High School. Gary worked for 27 years at Bath Iron Works. He is a machinist by trade but it doesn't take long to realize that Gary can do anything. He has an active volunteer life in Phippsburg. He is a member of the Phippsburg Fire Department, the Phippsburg Historic Preservation Commission, a trustee of the Albert F. Totman Library, director of the Emergency Management Agency and the Station Manager for the Phippsburg Cable Television Channel 3. Gary tells of a homework assignment that Alice Pye gave him that required him to trace his family tree back to his great grandparents. Gary did that and kept on going. He now has 22,000 relatives filling out his family tree! Gary lives in Phippsburg with his wife and daughter.



James W. Totman, "Jimma" was born in York Beach but moved to Phippsburg at the ripe old age of 1 year. He is the son of Tom and Anita Totman, founding members of the Historical Society. Jimma went to most of the one room school houses in Phippsburg and was in the first class to graduate from the "new" consolidated school. He graduated from Morse High School in 1963. In 1965 Jimma and his brothers started the Pine Tree Service Center in Phippsburg Center. In 1969 Jimma moved the station to its present location on Rt. 209 in the Dromore section of town. He is still there! Jimma has been active in the Phippsburg Fire Department for 43 years and has served as Chief since 1994. Jimma is a recipient of the Morse High School Mainsail Award. We are fortunate to have him on our board.



Roland Bisson spent his early years in Topsham and Brunswick. He graduated from Brunswick High School. In 1979, Roland had the good sense to marry a Phippsburg girl, Dianne Hunt. Roland worked at BIW for 23 years, retiring in 2001 to run the Phippsburg Center Store full time. Roland is an active hunter, snowmobiler, and motorcyclist. He has been a board member since 2000.



Lynda R. Wyman is a Morse High graduate and has a BS from USM and a MA in History from the University of Massachusetts. Lynda is a former Phippsburg Selectman, a retired Special Ed teacher and a substitute teacher. She is a life member of the Phippsburg Historical Society and one of our volunteers at the Museum. She is interested in town history and genealogy. Lynda has three grown children who are all residents of Phippsburg and eight grandchildren. We are glad to have Lynda on our Board.



Dues

Society members are reminded that annual dues are due during the month of August each year. We have always been fortunate to have a loyal group of Members and friends. We depend on these donations to pay the Museum bills throughout the year. We thank you all for your continued support as it makes it possible for us to continue the work of our little Society. So remember your dues! If you are a Life Member, consider making a Memorial gift to the Society. Your continued contributions make all the difference to us!

President's Notes by Jessie Sutfin

I would like to begin by thanking the Board of Directors, Peggy Doughty, and our volunteers for helping me through my first year as President of the Museum.

We have had a busy year, we've been meeting monthly to address all the topics.

Finishing touches have been made to the new addition. Our heating and security systems are both working properly.

The addition has made a lot more room for storage and has allowed us to provide a nice area for research. We received several donations that will assist in researching, including a computer and a copy machine.

We now have a website up and running thanks to Charlie Main. The website address is www.phippsburghistorical.com

We have two new exhibits in the Museum this season. The Bodwell Grrange and Malaga Island. I invite you to come and see them.

Our Victorian Cookie walk, always a festive occasion, attracted a crowd again this year. Thanks to all of you who helped to make it that way. Please mark your calendars for this No-

vember.

Maine Old Cemetery Association is planning to hold their annual meeting here in Phippsburg on May 16, 2009. There will be a cemetery tour to follow. All are welcome.

Again, I thank all of you that have helped and donated this season.

PHS IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

If you have an interest in town history, or history in general, consider becoming a volunteer at the Phippsburg Historical Society Museum. Needed are volunteers and alternate volunteers to man the Museum 2-4 during the summer months, catalogers of the artifacts, computer inputting, general helpers to pick up donated articles, cleaning the Museum, and assorted other tasks. Please call Merry Chapin at 443-5669 or Carol Main at 443-6309, or contact any of the trustees listed elsewhere in this newsletter. We would enjoy having your help and your interest in the history of Phippsburg.

Future Exhibits

Looking ahead to the 2009 season, we would like to create a display of the numerous old stores that existed in our town. We know that each village had at least one general store and we would like to recall those days with pictures and artifacts. We are looking for information, pictures, artifacts that would help us build this exhibit. If you can help, please contact one of the trustees of the museum.

Long-range ideas for exhibits include fishing and farming in our town. We hope to expand these ideas by next year, so please stay tuned and again if you feel you can help, please contact us.

TRIVIA TIME...

NAME THREE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS WHO WORKED ON SHINGLING THE ROOF WHEN THE SOCIETY GAINED OWNERSHIP OF THE OLD CENTER SCHOOL.

(COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING AND FIND OUT...)



PHIPPSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

August 26, 2008

Please join us on August 26th, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the Phippsburg Sportsmen's Club on Route 209 in Phippsburg for our Annual Meeting. A short business meeting will precede the program. Our Speaker this year is Dr. Nathan Hamilton, Professor of Archeology at the University of Southern Maine. Dr Hamilton will give us an incisive look at the archaeology of Malaga Island, a struggling and ethnically diverse 19th century community in the Town of Phippsburg.

Refreshments will be served immediately following the speaker.

Phippsburg Historical Society
P.O. Box 21
Phippsburg, ME 04562



NOTICE OF SOCIETY DUES

JULY 1, 2008 TO JUNE 30, 2009

Society Dues are due annually, unless you choose to become a lifetime member. All dues are placed in the General Operating fund and are used to pay expenses incurred by the Society during the fiscal year.

Checks should be made payable to the Phippsburg Historical Society and mailed to: Phippsburg Historical Society, c/o Elizabeth B. Morse, P.O. Box 21, Phippsburg, ME 04562

Membership Classifications:

Sustaining Member	\$10.00 per Person
Family Membership	\$20.00 per Family
Patron	\$50.00 per Person
Life Membership	\$500.00 per Person

Name & Address:

The Museum Fund

These donations are used to maintain the Museum Building. All donations are carefully recorded and are tax deductible. A record is kept of those in whose memory donations are made. Checks should be made payable to Phippsburg Historical Society, P.O. Box 21, Phippsburg, ME 04562

Name of Donor:

In Memory of:
